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6 July 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Cyprus: Greek Prime Minister Papandreu foresees a struggle developing in which his government and General Grivas will be pitted against Makarios, backed by the Communists.

Papandreu, who expressed concern when Grivas left Athens for Cyprus in mid-June, now regards his presence on the island as "a positive factor of great importance." He reportedly sees Grivas, with his well-known anti-Communist record, as symbolizing Athens' intention to seek a solution within the Western alliance. Papandreu and Grivas agree that enosis is the only solution which can save Cyprus from becoming "another Cuba."

On the other hand, Papandreu accuses Makarios of being unable to control the various Greek Cypriot irregular bands, of trying to keep the Cyprus dispute going because of fears that a solution would end Cypriot independence, and of turning more and more to the Soviet bloc and the Cypriot Communists for support.

Relations between Greece and Turkey continue to deteriorate. Ankara has announced the imminent deportation of 200 more Greek nationals from Turkey. The Turkish Government has also accused Greece of sending arms and men to the Dodecanese Islands near Turkey in violation of treaty agreements. Papandreu has now publicly rejected any bilateral negotiations between Greek and Turkish representatives at this time.

In Paris, NATO Secretary General Stikker has seen both the Greek and Turkish Permanent Representatives to convey his distress at reports of arms and personnel being sent into Cyprus. Canada, meanwhile, has stopped deliveries of military aid to both countries.

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*Italy: The Socialist Central Committee's reaffirmation of support for party chief Nenni's policies on 4 July should permit Premier-designate Moro to start negotiations promptly to try to form a new center-left government.

The majority position, which received 52 votes out of the 88 cast, is considered a "clear victory" by Nenni's supporters.

No attempt was made to remove Riccardo Lombardi from the editorship of Avanti!, the official party daily. Party Secretary De Martino, whose group holds the balance between the Nenni and Lombardi factions, [redacted] persuaded Nenni not to make this and other changes in the party's leadership until shortly after the center-left is reconstituted.

Despite Nenni's victory, the vote showed that his policies are opposed by a large minority which holds that structural reforms in the economy must be carried out simultaneously with measures to overcome Italy's current economic difficulties. Although Lombardi, in a talk with a US Embassy official early on 4 July, ruled out a new split in Socialist ranks, Nenni probably believes that the interests of party unity place him under some obligation to give consideration to minority positions when he negotiates with Moro.

While Moro is well known for his ability to achieve compromise solutions, he reportedly plans to start with stiff Christian Democratic conditions which may make it difficult for the Socialists to form a new coalition on terms favoring government stability.

South Vietnam: In the past few days, the Viet Cong have been especially active in the central highlands where they maintain substantial hard-core strength.

On 4 July a force estimated at battalion strength attacked a Special Forces camp near the Laotian border, inflicting losses of 51 killed and 39 wounded including four US personnel. The Viet Cong also captured about 140 weapons. In four other recent actions in the highlands, including an ambush by a company-size force, government troops lost nearly 160 weapons.

The Communists continue active in the delta provinces south of Saigon with primary emphasis on small-scale attacks, sabotage, and harassment of government posts and hamlets.

Top South Vietnamese officials continue to relay their doubts about the extent of the US commitment in South Vietnam. Defense Minister General Khiem, as well as civilian Deputy Premier Oanh who claimed to speak for General Khanh, have both recently expressed fear that the US has not ruled out an eventual negotiated settlement as proposed by De Gaulle.

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Panama: Prompt action by the Panamanian National Guard prevented anti-US demonstrations on 4 July from attracting large-scale support. Communist student leader Floyd Britton, who was active in the violence last January, was among the 18 arrested.

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